

1 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
2 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

3
4 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

5 Plaintiff,

6 v.

Case No. 3:23-cr-00009-SLG-KFR

7 MELANIE GAIL TITUS,

8 Defendant.
9

10 **FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION UPON A PLEA OF GUILTY**

11 Upon Defendant's request to enter a guilty plea, pursuant to Rule 11 of the
12 Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, to Count One of the Felony Information,
13 charging a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(1)(A), Theft Concerning Programs
14 Receiving Federal Funds, [Doc. 1], the District Court referred this matter to the
15 Magistrate Judge, with the written and verbal consents of Defendant, counsel for
16 Defendant, and counsel for the United States.

17 Thereafter, the matter came before this Court for a hearing on Defendant's
18 guilty plea, in full compliance with Rule 11, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, in
19 open court and on the record.

20 In consideration of that hearing and the colloquy made by Defendant under
21 oath, on the record, in the presence of counsel, and the remarks of the Assistant
22 United States Attorney,

23 **A. I make the following FINDINGS – that Defendant understands:**

- 24 ☒ That any false statements made by Defendant under oath may later be
25 used against her in a prosecution for perjury;
26 ☒ The right to persist in a plea of not-guilty;
27 ☒ The consequences of not being a United States citizen;
28 ☒ The nature of the charges against Defendant;

- ☒ The loss of certain federal benefits;
- ☒ The maximum possible sentence, including imprisonment, fine, supervised release, and any applicable mandatory minimum sentence;
- ☒ The Court's authority to order restitution;
- ☒ The mandatory special assessment;
- ☒ Any applicable forfeiture;
- ☒ The right to a speedy and public trial by jury;
- ☒ The right to be represented by counsel and, if necessary, to have the court appoint counsel at trial, and at every other stage of the proceedings;
- ☒ The right to: confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses, to remain silent, to testify and present evidence, and to compel the attendance of witnesses;
- ☒ That a plea of guilty operates as a waiver of trial rights;
- ☒ That Defendant knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waives all right to appeal or collaterally attack (except on the grounds of ineffective assistance of counsel and the voluntariness of his plea); and
- ☒ That in determining a sentence, the court's obligation to calculate the applicable sentencing guideline range pursuant to the Sentencing Guidelines promulgated by the United States Sentencing Commission and to consider that range, as well as departures under the Sentencing Guidelines, and variances under 18 U.S.C. §3553(a).

B. I further FIND:

1. Defendant is competent to enter an informed plea;
2. Defendant is aware of her rights and has had the advice of legal counsel;
3. That the plea of guilty by Defendant has been knowingly and voluntarily made and is not the result of force, threats, or coercion;

- 1 4. Any agreements or promises which induced the plea of guilty are set
2 forth in the written plea agreement or on the record; and
3 5. That there is a factual basis for Defendant's plea.

4 **B. I RECOMMEND:**

- 5 ☒ That the District Court accept Defendant's plea of guilty to Count One of
6 the Felony Information, a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 666(a)(1)(A), Theft
7 Concerning Programs Receiving Federal Funds.
8 ☐ That the District Court accept Defendant's admission to the Criminal
9 Forfeiture Allegation.¹

10 **D. IT IS ORDERED:**

11 That a Presentence Report be prepared by the U.S. Probation Office.

- 12 1. Any objection(s) to the presentence report shall be filed no later than
13 fourteen (14) days after receiving the presentence report (Fed. R. Crim.
14 P. 32(f)(1));
15 2. Any sentencing memorandum shall be filed no later than seven (7)
16 business days prior to sentencing (D.Ak. L.Cr.R. 32.1(d)).

17 The Sentencing hearing will be before a United States District Judge. The Court
18 excludes time from February 21, 2023, until the time of sentencing pursuant to 18
19 U.S.C. §3161(h)(1)(G) on the grounds that the District Judge will be considering the
20 proposed plea agreement.

21 DATED this 21st of February 2023, at Anchorage, Alaska.

22
23 s/ Kyle F. Reardon
24 KYLE F. REARDON
25 United States Magistrate Judge
26 District of Alaska

27 This Report and Recommendation is being issued as a Final Report and
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28 ¹ The Information did not include a forfeiture allegation.

1 Recommendation. Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim P. 59(b)(3), any objections will be
2 considered by the District Court Judge who will accept, reject, or modify the
3 recommendation following de novo review. Any objections must be filed within
4 seven (7) days from the date of service of this Report and Recommendation. The
5 shortened objection deadline is due to the request of the District Court Judge. Fed.
6 R. Crim P. 59(b)(2) and D. Ak. L.M.R. 6(a) authorizes the court to alter the standard
7 objection deadlines.

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9 Reports and recommendations are not appealable orders. Any notice of appeal
10 pursuant to Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(1) should not be filed until entry of the District
11 Court's judgment.²

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² See *Hilliard v. Kincheloe*, 796 F.2d 308 (9th Cir. 1986).